

MIDDLE EAST

U.S. waits to see outcome of PLO feud

By Jeffrey Antevil

Reuters

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is anxiously watching the struggle within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), unsure whether it is good or bad news for the Middle East.

State and Defence Departments Middle East specialists told Reuters they were uncertain what impact the struggle between PLO leader Yasser Arafat and an apparent combination of anti-Arafat Palestinians and Syrians would have on regional peace prospects.

But most experts support the view that the PLO conflict will promote Middle East stability.

Mr. Arafat is facing the worst challenge to his leadership of the PLO, under pressure from hardliners to abandon what they regard as too soft a line towards the conflict with Israel.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Secretary of State George Shultz said on Wednesday that Mr. Arafat's tribulations, including a humiliating expulsion from Syria last week, increased the chances that PLO guerrillas would leave Lebanon if Syria decided to pull its forces out.

Mr. Arafat has rejected a Syrian denial that it is aiding PLO rebels



PLO rebels at a press conference in Bekaa Valley

but the Reagan administration is convinced that Damascus is bidding to grab power in the organisation.

One State Department official said Syrian domination could lead to a more radical PLO "and an increase in activities aimed at upsetting whatever stability exists in the Middle East."

Many miracles

But, he said, "Arafat has had many miraculous comebacks and I don't think we should be writing him off yet."

Mr. Arafat and his PLO executive committee decided Friday to send a special mission to Syria in a bid to end the rift within the PLO and between Mr. Arafat and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

Other Arab countries, to which

Mr. Arafat has appealed for support, "are adopting a characteristic wait and see attitude," the official said. "The Arab moderates are probably paying lip service to both sides in the PLO struggle and want to come out on the right side of the issue."

But a Pentagon Middle East expert was much less sanguine

that Mr. Arafat would emerge on top in the PLO feud.

"If the Syrians really want to get rid of him and just keep the pressure on, it's hard to see how he can survive," he said.

He said he did not believe Mr. Arafat in his weakened position had the leverage to convince either moderate Arabs or the Soviet Union to make a major effort to keep him in power.

Contrary to his State Department colleague, the Pentagon official said Mr. Arafat defeat was more likely to increase stability than to produce more turmoil or a Middle East war.

If Mr. Assad believes that eventually he would have to withdraw his forces from Lebanon, establishing control over the PLO will make it easier, the official said, echoing Mr. Shultz.

Israel and Lebanon agreed in May on a pullout of Israeli troops, but it is contingent on a Syrian and Palestinian withdrawal which Mr. Assad has so far fiercely resisted.

Mr. Arafat is unlikely to go along voluntarily with a pullout, the Pentagon official said, since it would either leave PLO fighters alone and vulnerable in Lebanon or force them to go to Syria, where "they would be under Assad's thumb for good."

If Mr. Assad is determined to leave his army in Lebanon, getting firm control over the PLO also could help the Syrian leader.

Major's dilemma points to plight of PLO commanders

By Phil Davison

BAALBEK, Lebanon (R) — Maj. Salah, commander of the Karami brigade of Yasser Arafat's Fatah guerrillas, sat on the crumbling porch of a derelict house and gazed across the Bekaa Valley to the sandstone hills beyond.

Hatless, unarmed, and wearing dusty fatigues and flimsy sandals, he showed little sign of preparing to fight Fatah rebels reported to be pushing towards him.

Only two teenage Fatah fighters, nursing Soviet-made Kalashnikov rifles, guarded his "base", 1100 metres off the main road through this ancient city.

Between the road and his windowless and doorless headquarters, a dusty anti-aircraft gun stood unmanned, apparently meant to be camouflaged behind a pile of red earth and bricks.

His companions on the porch said the major was cut off from the men as a result of the two-month old mutiny that has split the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and led to sporadic fighting between rival factions along the valley.

"His men are up there somewhere, scattered in the hills. But he cannot reach them because of the circumstances," said one of the teenagers, apparently a Palestinian refugee from the nearby wavel camp.

'The circumstances'

Both young guards suggested that "the circumstances" meant he would not get very far if he ventured out along the dusty highway.

The young major said very little to two foreign reporters. When he did, it was not about politics. He should speak to his leaders in Tripoli, north Lebanon, he said, starting out across the bumpy road as if hoping to catch a glimpse of his men.

According to Arafat loyalists in Fatah, Syrian forces which control north and east Lebanon prevent any movement by pro-Arafat Palestinian fighters. But those supporting rebel Fatah officer Col. Abu Musa have free passage.

Foreign reporters who have spoken to both sides have found evidence to back up this charge. But Syria denied it was aiding the rebels, and expelled Fatah and PLO chief Arafat a week ago for saying so.

Independent diplomats in Beirut say there is little evidence that Syrian forces have joined in the Bekaa fighting on the rebels' side. But they add there is little doubt that they have helped the mutineers move out of a handful of small bases, near the Syrian border.

This explains how the rebels have managed to sweep towards the strategic crossroads town of Shitour and control the last 20 kilometres of the Beirut-Damascus road on the Lebanese side of the border, the diplomats believe.

Little bloodshed

Despite daily reports of heavy fighting by some Lebanese radio stations hostile to the PLO, the rebels' sweep has been accomplished with little bloodshed according to local residents.

They add that fighting for bases has been rare and most casualties have occurred in clashes at roadblocks thrown up by rebel groups.

At the nearby refugee camp, where guerrillas guard 4,000 men, women and children, fighters of all factions issued a joint statement saying they would refuse to fight each other.

Although the refugees were worried about the repercussions of internecine strife, and anti-Palestinian intervention by local Lebanese militias, they did not seem to expect any rebel attack. Unarmed teenagers were on guard patrol at the narrow camp entrance.

One Fatah guerrilla said: "We have been in touch (with the rebels). We told them we do not want to fight Palestinians. They said they feel the same."

Asked whether this meant a truce, he replied: "Some governments like the fighting between Palestinians. If Arab governments leave us alone, we can get together again."

Maj. Salah, scarcely shifting his gaze from the hazy hills across the valley, broke his silence as the reporters got up to leave his ramshackle headquarters with no communications and no men.

"Inshallah (if God wills), we shall all sit together. Abu Ammar (Arafat's nom de guerre), Abu Musa, and become brothers again," he declared. "When we start fighting Israel again, then I shall speak."

Delay of plane in Cairo prompts Czech protest

VIENNA (R) — Czechoslovakia has protested to Egypt because a plane carrying 45 hostages home from more than three months of captivity in Angola was forced to land Friday at Cairo airport and held for four hours.

The official news agency Ceteka said Saturday the reason given by the Egyptian authorities for the action was confusion about the plane's flight plan.

The agency described this explanation as "unconvincing" and said the Czechoslovak foreign ministry had protested sharply to Cairo about the incident.

In Cairo, an Egyptian foreign ministry spokesman said the plane had to land in Egypt because its permission to enter Egyptian airspace had expired.

The Egyptian spokesman told Reuters the plane was 72 hours behind the time arranged for its entrance into Egypt's airspace.

The Czechoslovak Soviet-built Ilyushin-62 aircraft was on its way from Kinshasa, Zaïre, to Prague with 21 children, 17 women and seven men, freed one day earlier by Angolan anti-government guerrillas.

They were among 66 Czechoslovaks and 20 Portuguese captured last March 12 in a raid by rebels of the United Front for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) on an industrial complex in central Angola where the men had been working.

Some said on arrival in Prague that they lost 10 to 15 kilos on a

1,300-kilometre forced march during rains through jungle and bush to territory held by UNITA.

One Czechoslovak, Jaroslav Navratil, died during the trek. Another man carried his eight-year-old son on his back for 10 days.

A Red Cross official who accompanied the hostages to Johannesburg said 20 Czechoslovaks and 10 Portuguese were left behind in Angola.

UNITA said in a statement that the remaining hostages, all men, were being held to be exchanged for members of the rebel movement jailed in Angola and if Britain wished, for seven British mercenaries also imprisoned by the Angolan government.

Jarmila Janu, one of two nurses amongst the hostages, told a Czechoslovak reporter: "The marches at night were terrible. We could not see one step ahead, and we wondered if we would ever see our families again."

"But the worst time was when Jaroslav Navratil was dying and we could not help him."

A report in the Communist Party newspaper Rude Pravo said Navratil was buried without any of his friends present somewhere in the bush at the confluence of two rivers.

Despite his death, UNITA issued a number of statements saying all the Czechoslovak hostages were alive and healthy, Rude Pravo said.

Egyptian, Sudanese leaders meet in Cairo

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt (R) — Presidents Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Jaafar Numeiri of Sudan met Saturday for the second time in a week in this Mediterranean port city where both leaders are spending a summer break.

Details of the meeting, also attended by Egypt's Defence Minister Abdel-Halim Abu Ghazala, were not immediately known but were believed to have concentrated on recent developments in the Central African state of Chad.

Foreign ministers meet

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali had talks Saturday with his Sudanese counterpart, Mohamed Virghani Yubarak, on the Chad situation and other issues, foreign ministry officials said.

They declined to give further details. The Sudanese minister arrived in Egypt Friday on a private visit. Egypt and Sudan, Chad's strongest supporters in Africa, have alleged Libyan involvement in a rebellion against the government of Hissene Habre and threatened this week to take "appropriate measures" if it continued.

Japanese team in Iraq to discuss loan extension

BAGHDAD (R) — A Japanese government delegation arrived here Saturday to negotiate with Iraqi officials the extension of a deadline for the use of loans totalling \$1.5 billion.

Japanese embassy officials told Reuters that the delegation, led by foreign ministry advisor Yoshihiro Nakayama, would also discuss details of a visit to Iraq by Japan's Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe in early August.

The present deadline for taking up the loans is Aug. 15, Japanese officials said.

Japanese ministry officials said in Tokyo Thursday Japan had planned to extend the deadline by five years on condition the funds would not be disbursed before Iraq's war with Iran ended.

Because of the war, Iraq has not used 1.5 billion of two billion dollars Japan pledged to provide in 1974 and 1977.

Habre off to Nigeria

N'DJAMENA (R) — President Hissene Habre left the Chad capital of N'djamena Saturday for Nigeria for talks with President Shugu Shagari on recent border clashes between the two countries.

The meeting will take place at Abuja, Nigeria's future capital, and should pave the way for a complete normalisation of relations following clashes across Lake Chad in April and May, informed sources in N'djamena said.

The meeting follows four days of talks between officials of the two countries in Lagos and has rekindled hopes that the Nigerian border with landlocked Chad, which has been closed since the skirmishes, will soon be reopened.

Pravda raps Turk nenistan

MOSCOW (R) — The official Soviet newspaper Pravda called on communists in the Central Asian republic of Turkmenistan Saturday to boost atheist education and combat what it called religious nonsense.

Pravda said there were more than 300 "self-appointed Muslim holy men" who were particularly active in "so-called holy places".

"It is above all women who do not work who are most given to this nonsense," Pravda said.

Pravda said there were many problems in propagating atheism in Turkmenistan and women there ought to be made a more productive element of Soviet society.

Egyptian press accuses government of curtailing information about cholera

CAIRO (R) — The Egyptian government was accused by the press Saturday of misinforming the public about an outbreak of cholera which has so far killed four people and stricken hundreds more.

The government has not acknowledged an outbreak of cholera this week at Saft El Laban, a village 10 kilometres west of Cairo, but has launched a nationwide

health campaign which appeals to people through the media to submit themselves to cholera vaccination.

Four people died and 460 villagers were taken ill at Saft El Laban after sewage contaminated drinking water.

"The ministry of health has undertaken a campaign against 'summer diseases', an editorial in

the English-language Egyptian Mail said, quoting the euphemism by which government officials publicly refer to cholera cases.

"But what are summer diseases? The public has a right to know exactly what the present summer diseases are and what health risks they involve," the Cairo daily said.

Iran wants another U.N. investigation

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Iran said in a letter to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar published Friday that it would welcome another fact-finding mission from the U.N. to see the effects of the Gulf war.

A team that toured Iran and Iraq in May to survey civilian damage in the 34-month-old conflict reported considerable devastation to both sides. Its report dealt at greater length with damage in Iran than with that in Iraq.

In his letter to Mr. Perez de Cuellar, the Iranian delegate, said Rajai Khorasani, said that because of the "very limited" time the mission was in Iran, members

were unable to visit several major war-damaged sites.

Crackdown on drugs

LONDON (R) — Iranian Interior Minister Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri announced stricter border controls in an effort to combat drug smuggling. Iran's national news agency IRNA reported.

The minister told IRNA in the southern Iranian town of Bushehr that a "border bureau" had been set up to control the country's land frontiers and sea approaches.

The agency, monitored in London, quoted him as saying the country's long eastern border with

the Soviet Union, Afghanistan and Pakistan should be brought under control or closed.

Frontier patrols had been increased, he said, while adding that the drug traffic problem was not limited to the eastern border.

Drugs discovered in Tehran showed that had been packaged in West Germany and China, IRNA quoted him as saying.

Earlier this week, Tehran said its revolutionary guards seized about 500 kilos of heroin in the Tabas desert of eastern Iran.

"The issue of smuggling and especially drugs is among our political issues," the minister was quoted as saying.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	2300	Evening Show
MAIN CHANNEL	2400	News Headlines
14:30	Koraa	06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Wimbledon
14:55	Tennis	06:45 Financial Review 06:55
16:10	Life in the Prison	07:00 World News 07:09
16:35	Famous Scientists	07:15 Lanchester
16:45	Children's Programme	07:30 Parade 07:45 Letter from America
17:10	Kicket	08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Counterpart
17:30	Arabic Series	09:00 World News 09:09 News about
18:20	Religious Programme	09:15 From Our Own Correspondent 09:30 Sarah and Company
18:30	Arabic Series	10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections
20:00	News in Arabic	10:15 The Measure's Yours 11:00 World
20:40	Karaman Ouz	11:09 British Press Review 11:15
21:45	Cinema '13	People and Politics 11:45 Sports Review
22:25	Arabic Series	12:15 Classical Record Review 12:30
23:00	News Summary	Religious Service 13:00 World News
23:10	Arabic Series Cont.	13:09 News About Britain 13:15 Letter
FOREIGN CHANNEL		from America 13:30 Baker's Half
18:00	French Programme	Dozen 14:30 The Economic Con-
19:00	News in French	sequences of John Maynard Keynes
19:30	News in Hebrew	15:15 Wimbledon Men's Final 16:30
20:00	News in Arabic	Wimbledon 19:00 World News 19:09
20:30	Brass	Meridian 19:40 Reflections 19:45 Spor-
21:00	Hollywood	tical 20:00 World News 20:09 News
21:30	Feature Film: "Blue Waters, White Dead"	about Britain 20:15 Radio Newswelt
22:00	News in English	20:30 Brain of Britain 19:30 Parade
22:15	Goliath Awaits	21:15 Roads to Trebizond 22:00
		World News 22:09 Commentary 22:15
		Letter from America 21:30 Alternative
		Proms
		VOICE OF AMERICA
		KHz 1200, 5065, 7200, 15205, 11725
		05:00 The Breakfast Show: News, In-
		formation Presentation of Popular Music
		with Feature Reports, Interviews, An-
		swers to Listener's Questions, Science
		Digest, News Summary at 30 minutes
		past the hour, 17:00 News, 17:10 New
		Horizons and New Products 17:30 News
		English News and Features 18:00
		News 18:10 International Viewpoints
		18:30 Music USA Standards 19:00 News
		19:10 Critic's Choice 19:30 Special Eng-
		lish News and Features 20:00 News
		20:10 News 21:30 News 21:30 Issues in the
		News 21:00 News 21:10 International
		Viewpoints 21:30 Music USA Standards
		22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Concert
		Hall 23:00 News 23:10 New Horizons
		and New Products 23:30 Studio One

WHAT'S GOING ON

CULTURAL CENTRES	SERVICE CLUBS
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267	Lions Amman Club. Meetings every
American Centre 44371	first and third Wednesday at the Tyche
American Centre Library 41520	Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
British Council 36147-4	Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings
French Cultural Centre 37049	every second and fourth Wednesday at
Goethe Institute 41905	the Amman Marriott Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203	Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049	every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn,
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777	1.30 p.m.
Haya Arts Centre 661195	Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at
Husseini Youth City 661181	the International Hotel, 6.00 p.m.
Y.W.C.A. 41793	Royal Automobile Club, Jabbal Amman,
Y.W.M. Amman Municipal Library 661251	Elghish Circle. Tel. 815261.
University of Jordan Library 843555	
MUSEUMS	CHURCHES
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and cos-	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)
turns over 100 years old. Also mosaic	Jabbal Amman, tel. 24590.
from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 19th	Church of the Annunciation (Roman
centuries). The Roman Theatre, Am-	Catholic) Jabbal Luwibich, 37440.
man. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5	De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic)
p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.	Jabbal Hussein, 661757.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an	Church of the Annunciation (Greek
excellent collection of the antiquities of	Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Jordan. Jabbal Al Qa'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	Anglican Church (Church of the Red-
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and orientalists, artists, Montazah, Jabbal Luwibich. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30124.	century) Jabbal Amman, 43453.
Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.	Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.
	St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.
	Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249.
PRAYER TIMES	
02:43	Israk
02:53	Fair
04:34	(Sunrise) Shurua
11:40	Dhuhr
15:21	Asr
16:47	Maghreb
20:24	Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53230, 53070, 53062, 53171, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

08:05	Tripoli, Larana (LI)
08:45	Cairo (R)
09:05	Aqaba (R)
09:15	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (R)
09:30	Jeddah (R)
09:45	Kuwait (R)
10:15	Beirut (R)
10:25	Muscat, Dubai, Doha (GF)
10:35	Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
13:05	Cairo (MS)
13:40	Kuwait (R)
15:20	Jeddah (SV)
16:20	Baghdad (LA)
16:30	Cairo (R)
16:50	Paris (R)
16:00	Larnaka (R)
16:15	Athens (R)
16:25	Brussels, Frankfurt (R)
17:05	Cairo (R)
17:15	Vienna, New York (R)
17:35	London, Paris (R)
18:40	Tunis, Casablanca (R)
19:30	Rome (R)
19:35	London (BA)
19:55	Cairo (MS)
20:15	Beirut (MEA)
20:20	Athens (OA)
22:20	Zurich, Athens, Damascus (SF)
22:55	Cairo (MS)
09:25	Cairo (EU)
09:30	Cairo (R)
09:45	Baghdad (R)

16:50	Jeddah (SV)
18:45	Beirut (R)
19:00	Kuwait (R)
19:15	Dhahran (R)
19:30	Jeddah (R)
19:40	Bahrain, Doha (R)
19:50	Abu Dhabi (R)
20:15	Baghdad (R)
20:30	Baghdad, London (BA)
21:30	Cairo (R)
21:15	Dubai, Muscat (R)
21:50	Bangkok (R)
22:05	Cairo (MS)
01:25	Cairo (R)

MONEY EXCHANGE

	Local selling rates in £s
Belgian franc	71.37 71.77
Dutch guilder	127.37 128
Egyptian guinea	532.67 537.1
French franc	47.57 47.8
Iraqi dinar	446 454.3
Italian lire (for 100)	7.48 74.3
Japanese yen (for 100)	151.17 152
Kuwaiti dinar	1254.37 1257.7
Lebanese lira	94.97 85.7
Omani riyal	1042.27 1050.5
QAE dirham	99 99.7
Saudi riyal	104.87 105.3
Swedish crown	47.47 47.7
Swiss franc	171.97 172.9
Syrian pound	63.77 64.3
UAE dirham	98.47 99
U.K. sterling pound	553.27 556.5
U.S. dollar	362.57 364.5
W. German mark	142.47 143.3

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

An increase in temperature is expected with light and variable winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C

Amman	21/34
Amman 35	25/41
Deserts	20/28
Jordan Valley	23/39

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 35, Aqaba 42, Husnayn near
Dhahran 40, Amman 21, Paris 18, Athens 15

Bank embezzlement scandal uncovered

AMMAN (J.T.) — A major embezzlement at a Jordanian bank has been uncovered resulting in the return of most of the money, according to a statement by the Jordan Central Bank.

Several people, mostly bank employees, involved in the case have been arrested. The statement said that the bank's management is following up the matter with the security authorities to retrieve the remaining amounts. Thorough investigation into the case is continuing and the bank's operations are reported to be going on as normal.

However, the bank's name and the identity of the embezzlers have not been disclosed.

The statement also revealed that a similar embezzlement occurred at another bank, also involving several employees. The case was uncovered a few months ago and again most of the stolen money has been retrieved, the statement said.

People involved in the case are in prison pending a court case, it added.

A recent amendment to the 1971 penal code, doubled the penalty imposed on people involved in bank embezzlement cases, as bank deposits are considered for such purposes as the same as public funds.

Isma'il: 16 international phone lines now in use

AMMAN (Petra) — Telecommunications Corporation Director-General Mohammad Shahid Isma'il has said that the international direct dialing system service is now open to the public on sixteen international lines.

These serve Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Iraq, Syria, Arab Republic of Egypt, the U.S., France, Britain, Japan, West Germany, Italy, Greece, Spain and Switzerland.

Mr. Isma'il said a trial run for connecting the Zarqa district to Jordan's international dialing system will be carried out soon after the Eid Al Fitr holiday. He added that contacts are being made with Arab and international related bodies to intensify the direct dialing service to cover Jordan's various governorates and to widen the range of lines for the direct dialing service at an international level.

Service councils receive large finance injection

AMMAN (Petra) — A sum of JD 332,000 has been allocated to finance projects being undertaken by joint services councils in a number of regions in the country, according to Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Womani.

He said that JD 80,000 had been allocated to build schools with JD 252,000 for other public services.

The councils of Irbid, Ramtha,

Kufr Abeel, Kufr Awan, Beit Eides, Deir Abi Sa'id, Ashrafieh, Kufr Rakeb and Kufr Al Ma'a will receive JD 86,000 for their projects. The councils of Turah, Shajara, Umm Al Qutain, Bierin, Alouk, Al Massarat, Umm Rumman and Sarout will get JD 89,000, while the councils of Umm Al Amad, Al Musherreh, Al Direh, Havaik, Umm Adaal, Hualeh, Wadi Musa, Al Taybeh, Al Rajef, and Dalagha will get JD 157,000.

NRA drills new wells

IRBID (Petra) — In a bid to overcome shortages in the water supply to the Kura district in the Irbid Governorate, the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) has drilled an artesian well in the Iyoun Al Hamam region, and is currently drilling a second one for the same purpose, a NRA spokesman said here Saturday.

He said that another artesian well had earlier been drilled to supply water for the town of Tibneh in the same district. These wells are needed to help NRA to overcome water supply shortages in the northern regions, the spokesman said.

Saladdin, Yarmouk to cooperate on research

IRBID (Petra) — Yarmouk University has expressed readiness to establish scientific cooperation links with Saladdin University in Iraq.

Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran said that he received a message from the Iraqi university's President Dr. Khasru Shami expressing a particular desire for such cooperation. Yarmouk University is currently studying details of Saladdin University's proposals for such links and subjects that can be agreed on in this respect, Dr. Badran said.

RSS building seminar begins

AMMAN (J.T.) — A symposium on building maintenance opened at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Saturday.

Taking part in the two-day symposium are 40 engineers from a variety of fields who will exchange views and discuss issues connected with the viability of using particular building materials.

rials, the use of locally produced raw materials and energy saving as a way of reducing building costs.

The symposium has been organized by the RSS's Building Research Centre (BRC).

The BRC has recently produced a complete system of low-cost housing totally built of local materials, particularly cement.

Irbid farmers briefed on ways to counteract Newcastle disease

IRBID (Petra) — Poultry farmers in the Irbid Governorate were Saturday briefed on measures to prevent the spread of Newcastle disease among their birds.

This took place at a meeting held at the agricultural department here which was also attended by vets, agricultural spe-

cialists and the director of animal health at the Ministry of Agriculture.

The farmers were briefed on inoculation campaign that is to be implemented in their region to give their birds immunity against the disease, as well as being familiarised with modern means of combating the disease.



A folk troupe at the Palestinian folk heritage event which was launched Friday (Petra photo)

Palestinian heritage month launched

AMMAN (J.T.) — A month-long Palestinian folk heritage event was launched at the Professional Association Complex Friday evening.

Several prominent Jordanian and Palestinian figures made speeches at the opening ceremony outlining the aims of such an activity and calling for the preservation of the Palestinian cultural heritage.

On display are samples of national costumes, plastic art, embroidery, ornamented pottery and

other folk craft, together with an exhibition of paintings by seven Palestinian artists.

At the ceremony, folk troupes presented dabkeh, national songs and dancing. Further activity will be held during July at several places in Amman and in other regions in Jordan.

Sunday there will be a performance at the Department of Culture and Arts depicting life in a Palestinian village. On July 5 there will be a seminar at the

Amman Chamber of Commerce in which leading Palestinian personalities will take part, while on July 17 events will move north to Al Husn refugee camp where a special folk performance will be presented.

Another refugee camp, Al Wihdat, will host another ceremony on July 28. On July 31, a ceremony will be held at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman where folk troupes from 49 cities around the world will put on a performance.

Customs officials seize cigarette, gold smugglers

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian customs authorities have foiled an attempt to smuggle foreign-made cigarettes into the country and the smugglers have been apprehended, according to an official statement issued here Saturday.

The statement said that customs officers pursued the smugglers in the eastern parts of the Kingdom and that fire was used mainly to cause damage to the smugglers' vehicles in order to foil their escape, the statement said.

According to the statement, the smugglers carried 4,500 cartons of cigarettes in three vehicles.

All smugglers have been detained, the contraband confiscated and the vehicles impounded pending further investigations and legal proceedings, the statement added.

The customs authorities also Saturday reported the seizure of 60 kilograms of gold ingots that were being smuggled out of the

country in Syrian vehicles.

A statement on the incident said that the gold had been found hidden in secret compartments inside the cars that were heading towards Syria from Amman. Investigations revealed that the smugglers had earlier taken another 45 kilograms of gold in another operation.

The customs officials said that the owners of the gold were willing to settle the issue by paying the appropriate fines and customs duty on the contraband.

The 60 kilograms of gold were believed to be worth JD 400,000 on the open market.

TV transmission committee to meet

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan will take part in a meeting of the committee responsible for beaming educational programmes to the Arab people in Israeli-occupied territory. The meeting will open at the Arab League headquarters in

Tunis on July 26.

During the week-long meeting, delegates will discuss the implementation of recommendations from the committee's previous meetings, and will hear reports on the educational programmes and

an assessment of their impact.

The delegates will also try to work out a general expanded plan for future programming, and the necessary funds needed to finance these projects.

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Who did the somersault?

UNTIL recently, all Arab attention was focused on Israel to see how the enemy state could possibly cope with its predicament in Lebanon. Most of us were happy just to see the Israelis on the defensive, suffering, as they have been, from one guerrilla attack after the other, and to watch them suddenly run short of ideas on how they could extricate themselves from the Lebanese "mess" they got in.

Israel's difficulties in Lebanon naturally left a positive impact on the Arabs — militarily, politically and psychologically. And the ground was fertile for the Arab World to close ranks and prevent the enemy from achieving any gains from his invasion of Lebanon and still make him pay a heavy price for it. The occasion was indeed unique and happy. But, unfortunately, it would not last. Either we Arabs suffer from such lack of concentration that we could not for long remember who the enemy is, or else we are not really serious about facing the Israeli threat to our identity and homeland.

It is possible, however, that the Israelis and "imperialist forces" have tried and succeeded in starting the rebellion in Fateh and getting the Syrian regime to side with the rebels against Yasser Arafat's PLO leadership, so that Arab attention would be refocused on inter-Arab differences and rivalries rather than on the fight with Israel. If it is, and the latest setback in the Arab camp is just the result of yet another Israeli-American conspiracy, why do we bother even to discuss the basics of where our attention should be?

But it is not for one or two reasons that we are losing the latest round with the Israelis, as we all probably know.

The complexity of Arab politics, and indeed allegiances, could have all too easily been responsible for our failure to consolidate positions in and on Lebanon. Therefore, unless we are willing to admit our own shortcomings, and be ready to overcome them, there is no point in pretending that the biggest enemy is not from within.

Arab reconciliation teams are at work again. Let us wait and see what they will come up with.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Only half a solution

TWO ARAB mediation teams are now making great efforts to reconcile the opposed Fatah factions and improve Palestinian-Syrian relations. A joint Saudi-Algerian mission and a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee representative mission are working laboriously to put an end to the crisis. In the first place, it is a sad day that Palestinian comrades-in-arms need a mediator, as is the case with the Palestinian-Syrian problems. Nonetheless, it is partly the responsibility of all Arabs that things have reached such a awkward situation. The only gainer in the current situation is Israel, who is using this breathing space to implement its annexationist plans. This only proves that the Arabs have more than the inter-Palestinian or Syrian-Palestinian differences to tackle — they have also to take account of the advantages the present situation offers to the Israelis.

The mediation teams should bear in mind the fact that a mere reconciliation will take the Arabs only half the way towards solving the present problem, thus making the question of time a major directive. The Arab masses, who have been deeply shocked by the hostilities within the mainstream Palestinian organisation, Fatah, also expect that such a dispute will be ended soon to pave the way for intensive efforts to liberate the occupied Arab territories and their people.

Al Dustour: A return to rationality

REGARDLESS OF the seemingly negative attitude adopted by the rebels against the Fatah leadership and by the Syrian capital, there are signs that the Saudi-Algerian mediation efforts will help reconcile the warring parties. Such a reconciliation will definitely save the Palestinian fighters a great deal of suffering and help them restore their sense of integrity.

It is still early to prejudice the outcome of the mediation efforts made by the mission PLO leader, Yasser Arafat, had formed. But the very act of forming this mission to tackle inter-Fatah differences and the Fatah-Syria dispute is a positive step. This only proves that the PLO leadership, despite its open accusation of Syrian interference in inter-Palestinian affairs, means to leave the door open for constructive dialogue and the settling of all differences through consultations.

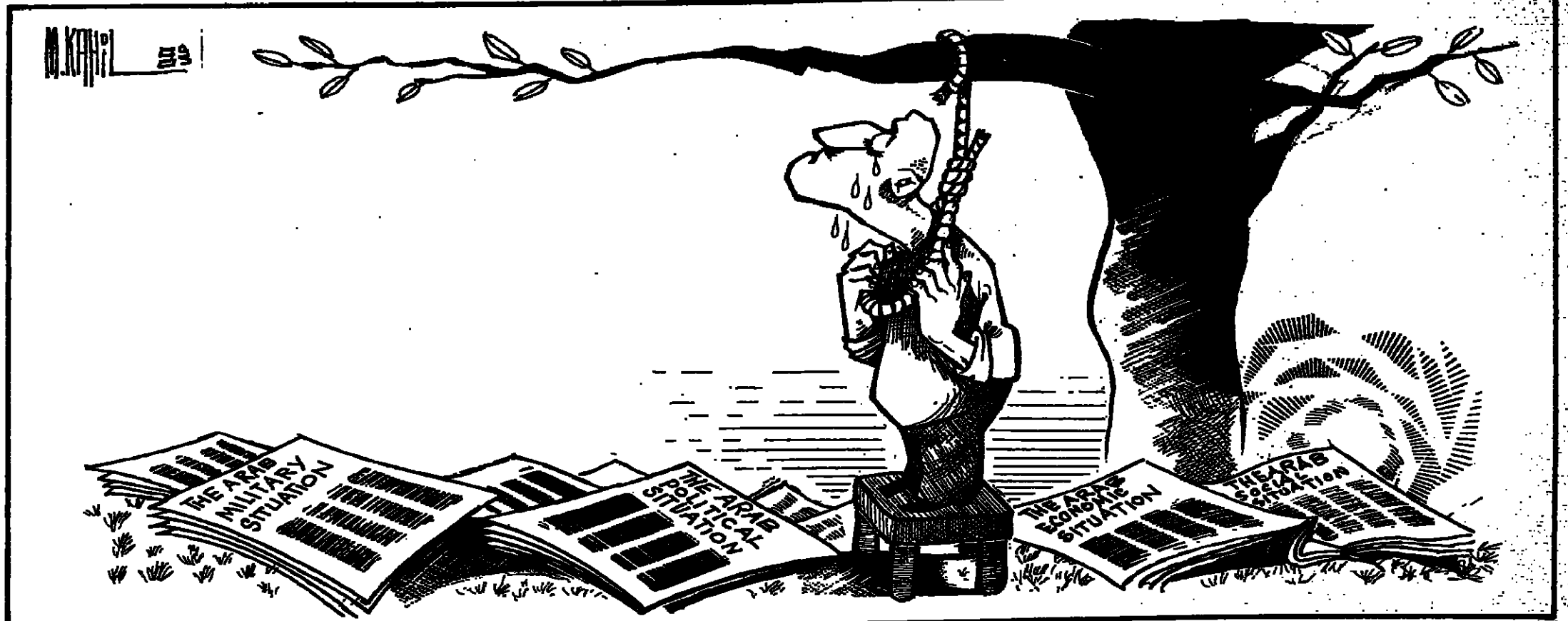
The calm which has settled over the Bekaa Valley and the statement issued by seven Palestinian resistance organisation to the effect that they would refrain from resorting to armed clashes reflect a rational attitude that is once more prevailing in the Palestinian household. This attitude will definitely create a suitable atmosphere for putting an end to hostilities among Palestinians and strengthen the position of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat as leader of the Palestinian revolution and its various organisations.

Sawt Al Shaab: Mediation needed

THE ARAB mediation efforts aimed at solving the inter-Fatah differences and the Fatah-Syrian dispute should only be satisfied with settling the issue completely. The Saudi-Algerian effort would have been more effective if it had represented Arab unanimity that uses all available tools to reach the desired ends.

Nonetheless, it is hoped that the Saudi-Algerian mediation effort will help end armed clashes and halt attempts at interfering in inter-Fatah affairs, which impede the solving of internal problems within the Fatah organisation. The Arab masses do hope that this effort will settle the present problem, but they look forward to a unanimous Arab stand for solving all inter-Arab differences.

The inter-Fatah differences are certainly an outcome of inter-Arab differences; and a mechanism should be created effectively to tackle such disputes. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee statement on the current situation reflects the outlook calling for non-interference in the Palestinians' internal affairs by Arab states. This is the only way to allow a democratic dialogue to take place within the Palestinian ranks. It is hoped that such a Palestinian wish will be respected, as attempts to contain the PLO pose a threat to the very existence of it and endangers the unity and integrity of the Palestinian people and its revolution.



NATO shows off its muscles in eastern Turkey

By Giles Elgood
 Reuter

SARAKAMIE, Turkey — Poorly equipped Turkish troops would, if necessary, fight with knives and axes to defend their country, their leaders say, but the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) hopes its special mobile force will take such desperate measures unnecessary. NATO's multinational Allied Mobile Force (AMF) has mounted the most long-range and costly exercise in its 33-year history, visiting eastern Turkey for the first time.

The AMF is designed as a deterrent force which can be deployed at short notice to defuse tension on NATO's flanks and, if needed, go into combat.

The AMF "Adventure Express 83" manoeuvres, which ended last week, were the most easterly ever staged by the alliance and introduced the inhabitants of this

small garrison town just 85 kilometres from the Soviet border to 4,000 NATO troops from five countries.

Up to 5,000 Turkish troops took part. Although no official figures were disclosed, transport alone cost about \$4.5 million.

Senior Turkish officials, who welcomed the exercises, are at pains to emphasise the strategic importance of their country to the alliance. Apart from Norway, Turkey is the only NATO country to share a border with the Soviet Union.

But they say their armed forces, some of whose equipment would be recognised by veterans of Korea and World War II, are in desperate need of modernisation aid from NATO allies.

Despite this handicap the country's leaders stress the bravery and willingness to fight of their men.

Haluk Bayulken, defence minister in Turkey's military gov-

ernment, told visiting correspondents that, if necessary: "Turkish forces will fight with axes and knives."

But he added that to modernise its forces, Turkey needs U.S. aid of \$1.5 billion a year for the next decade, over double the amount expected for 1984.

Soviet 'fears'

The quality of Turkey's armed forces, 741,000 strong including the gendarmerie, won praise from NATO Secretary-General Joseph Luns who visited the exercises.

He said reports from defectors showed the Soviet Union's fear of the Turkish army, the second largest in NATO, took a back seat, only to its worries about the West German and U.S. armies.

Turkish military planners believe they are confronted on their eastern borders by 20 divisions and one brigade of the Soviet Caucasian army and by 23 Soviet, Romanian and Bulgarian div-

isions and six brigades across the frontier from Thrace in western Turkey.

Turkey's strategic value in the region stems from a geographical position that makes it simultaneously a European, a Mediterranean, a Middle-Eastern and a Black Sea country.

By controlling the Turkish straits it straddles Soviet naval access from the Black Sea to the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean. Turkish officials say it controls the main maritime approach to the "soft underbelly" of the Soviet Union.

Defence Minister Bayulken said his country sometimes felt isolated from the mainstream of European affairs.

But top NATO officials at the exercises here have not lost the opportunity to point up the political significance of the presence of NATO forces.

NATO's supreme commander, General Bernard Rogers, denying

Soviet charges that "adventure Express" was provocative, said he hoped the Kremlin would heed the alliance's resolve to deploy troops in border areas to deter aggression.

Mr. Luns said the presence of the AMF in eastern Turkey would provide the local people with living proof of the alliance's interest in the area.

The AMF, whose initial role after being invited in by the host nation is to seek to defuse tension by its mere presence, took steps to win over the Turks with sports and shooting contests, equipment shows and talks with local leaders.

The month-long exercise's set piece demonstration took place in perfect summer weather.

But the region's high altitude — 2,000 metres and more — cuts the efficiency of helicopters, reducing their payloads and overheating engines. Men have difficulty acclimatising and tracked vehicles suffer from hard ground.

The AMF contingent comprised troops, armoured vehicles, helicopters and aircraft from the U.S., Britain, West Germany, Italy and Belgium. To get the full force into Eastern Turkey would take around 12 days, according to British sources.

Economy dictated the use of four ships and 14 trains to transport large parts of the AMF to and from the exercise. In an emergency the contingent would arrive by air.

Erzurum lies about 220 kilometres from the Soviet border. Turkish officials say the joint U.S. and Turkish base, vital for NATO deployment here, is to be expanded.

Individual AMF soldiers questioned said the manoeuvres on the ground had done little to test their capabilities, but for the local people the contingent's deployment was probably the largest demonstration of outside interest in the region for years.

U.S. envoy's trip spotlights tough stand towards Nicaragua

By Walker Simon
 Reuter

MEXICO CITY — Special U.S. envoy Richard Stone, with a mandate to foster peace in Central America, has ended a regional trip which spotlighted his government's tougher stance towards leftist Nicaragua.

Despite his pledge to "listen and learn" from Latin American leaders in his 14-nation tour, Mr. Stone openly differed with several of them on the need for closer ties with Nicaragua and criticised the revolutionary regime in Managua.

The newly-appointed envoy planned to confer with President Reagan, Secretary of State George Shultz and congressional leaders on his visits to six Central American nations and Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Pan-

ama, before returning to the region.

But the groundwork laid on his tour did not prove auspicious for a U.S. rapprochement with Nicaragua, seen by many Western diplomats as the key to defusing the threat of international war in Central America.

Washington accuses Nicaragua of threatening its neighbours with its alleged "export of revolution", while Managua charges the United States with arming and directing more than 7,000 anti-government guerrillas based along its borders, mainly with Honduras.

Relations, which hit a low point after the two countries' mutual expulsion of diplomats, appeared to be strained even further when Mr. Stone while in Managua — in rare language for a diplomat — criticised Nicaragua's domestic

policies. He publicly tied a mending of bilateral ties to "an improvement of Nicaragua's relations... with (their) own opposition and their own people".

Mr. Stone thus voiced what U.S. officials had privately indicated was an emerging U.S. policy in emphasising increased concern for Nicaraguan domestic affairs.

The fresh approach appears to add a new element to what the U.S. wants as the price for ending its covert aid to the guerrillas, European diplomats in Managua said.

They said Washington is demanding Nicaragua's Sandinist rulers loosen their tight grip on the country's politics, as well as the long-standing U.S. call that Nicaragua end its alleged backing for leftist guerrillas in El Salvador and neighbouring nations.

The European diplomats' view supported the assertion of one U.S. official in the region who told Reuters in May that improved U.S.-Nicaragua ties would mean Nicaragua's "introducing more democracy and human rights".

Nicaragua's Sandinist rulers, who ousted rightist dictator Anastasio Somoza in a 1979 popular revolution, have pledged elections in 1985, but have refused to indicate if these will be patterned after Western democratic polls.

Washington's increasingly open pressure to shape domestic Nicaraguan policy is coupled with mounting losses inflicted on Sandinist forces by the rebels, alleged to be backed by the U.S.

Mainly launching raids from neighbouring Honduras, the guerrillas so far this year have killed over 600 Nicaraguans, more than double the number killed in gue-

rrilla raids in 1980-1982, Nicaraguan officials said.

As the clashes have increased, Honduras, the strongest U.S. ally in Central America, and Nicaragua, with its warm ties with Havana and Moscow, have both warned of the spiralling danger of war.

Alarmed by his drift, Mexico's Foreign Ministry used the opportunity of Mr. Stone's visit to warn that a regional blowup was imminent unless peace negotiations among Central American nations were launched soon.

Throughout his tour, Mr. Stone reiterated his backing for the regional peace initiative of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama — the so-called Contadora group.

The group, named after the Panamanian island where it launched its peace bid in January, has

woven a fragile compromise between Nicaragua which demands direct bilateral talks with Honduras and the other Central American nations which insist on multilateral talks.

The group won tentative agreement in April that the talks' structure would depend on the subject discussed.

But Mr. Stone reaffirmed the long-standing U.S. position that all talks be held in a regional multilateral context and did not in any way back the bilateral approach.

Apart from the Contadora plan, Mexico and Venezuela have been pushing a Nicaraguan appeal for direct talks between Washington and Managua.

However Mr. Stone, in his visit to Managua, ruled out any immediate prospect for U.S.-Nicaragua talks.

Sweden seeks to bar atom bomb from Nordic zone

By Richard Wallis
 Reuter

STOCKHOLM — With deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe only months away, Sweden is campaigning to bar the atom bomb from the Nordic zone.

The proposed nuclear weapons-free area would include cover the neutral states of Finland and Sweden and NATO members Denmark and Norway. The fifth Nordic country, Iceland, also a NATO member, would be brought in later.

In exchange for the Nordic countries formalising their ban on atomic weapons, Washington and Moscow would have to guarantee they would not launch a nuclear strike against the region.

Sweden does not see such a zone as a realistic guarantee against attack in wartime but as a confidence-building measure that would help to defuse tension and preserve peace in Europe.

The West has so far reacted coolly to the idea, but Soviet leader Yuri Andropov has offered to discuss the creation of a nuclear weapons-free Baltic Sea as part of such an arrangement.

U.S. Vice-President George Bush last week began a tour that will take him to Sweden, Norway, Finland and Denmark. American officials said he was interested in hearing Swedish views on the idea of a nuclear-free Nordic zone.

Andropov has reiterated the Kremlin's willingness to study the possibility of "substantial measures" with regard to nuclear weapons on Soviet territory adjoining the zone.

The Swedish plan, a revamped version of a Finnish proposal in 1963, does not envisage a total ban on nuclear weapons in the adjoining areas.

As outlined by Prime Minister Olof Palme, the plan's main aim would be to eliminate short-range or so-called tactical nuclear weapons targeted against Nordic countries.

It would not require the Soviet Union to dismantle its long-range strategic missiles in the Kola peninsula, bordering northern Norway and Finland, where Western defence reports say 70 per cent of the Soviet strategic submarine force is based.

Swedish defence officials also say that special transit naval units plying to and from the Baltic. Over 50 per cent of the Soviet Union's naval dockyards and ship repair facilities are in the Baltic, according to Western estimates.

Swedish advocates of the plan say that such transit rights would have to be strictly limited if a substantive zone arrangement were to be achieved.

The Soviet Union is the Baltic's only nuclear power.

The Soviet Baltic fleet has since 1976 included six Golf-2 class diesel-powered submarines, each carrying three SSN-5 nuclear mis-

siles with a range of 1,200 kilometres (750 miles), according to Western defence experts.

In 1981, three to four Juliet-class submarines each armed with four missiles were transferred to the Baltic from the Black Sea. The missiles' range is 1,225 miles (200 kilometres).

At present there is no permanent Western nuclear-armed submarine patrol in the Baltic although there are no restrictions on the operations of nuclear-armed vessels.

Critics of the plan say establishing the Baltic as a nuclear weapons-free zone would give Moscow the right to condition access to this strategic area.

They say this would in effect turn the Baltic into a closed Soviet sea.

A Western naval exercise began in the area last week with the primary aim of demonstrating the U.S. navy's right to sail in the international waters of the Baltic.

The critics also argue that a zone agreement would isolate the Baltic politically as well as weakening NATO solidarity through a total Norwegian and Danish ban on nuclear weapons.

Southern Norway controls the Baltic approaches and Denmark imposes limitations on the number of warships passing through its narrow straits. Although both countries do not allow nuclear weapons on their soil in peacetime, they reserve the right to have them in wartime.

Fighting threatens Chad's recovery from civil war

By Nick Kotch
 Reuter

ABIDJAN — Renewed fighting in Chad, where Libya is alleged to be intervening on the rebel side, threatens a perceptible return to stability in the past year.

If rebel forces capture the key northern town of Faya-Largeau, giving them control of one-third of the country, analysts believe, Chad's 17-year civil war will enter a new and bloody phase.

President Hissene Habre has ruled the sparsely populated Afro-Arab state for barely a year since ousting the Libyan-backed government of fellow Muslim Goukouni Oueddei.

The United States and France have both warned against renewed Libyan involvement in Chad, where both have backed Habre as the only leader capable of uniting and reconstructing the war-shattered Central African state.

Diplomatic sources say Habre's ill-equipped forces would need substantial foreign help to hold key provincial towns such as Faya-Largeau, if his government's allegations that Libyan troops are fighting alongside Goukouni's rebels are confirmed.

While neither Socialist France nor the United States may want to get directly embroiled in the latest chapter of the Chad war, the prospect of a strongly pro-Libyan regime in N'Djamena might be an even less attractive alternative, the sources said.

French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson said France "could not remain indifferent" if Libya sent troops to fight alongside the rebels.

But he appeared to rule out direct military intervention by France, the former colonial power and Chad's main aid donor.

Some 1,200 French troops, backed by Jaguar strike aircraft, are based in the neighbouring Central African Republic.

The United States has warned Libya to stay out of the Chad conflict but any emergency American assistance to Mr. Habre would be restricted to arms supplies, diplomats said in recent interviews in N'Djamena.

Western and African diplomats, and heads of the dozens of foreign aid missions in the war-torn state have been virtually unanimous in praising Mr. Habre's achievements.

"For the first time in years Chad has a president, not a medieval war-lord," said one well-informed foreign resident.

These sources all pointed to Mr. Habre's ability to pay civil servants regularly as opposed to his rarely under Mr. Goukouni's three-year government.

The country's new administrative backbone was crucial in stamping out a potentially disastrous cattle plague, aid workers said.

Recent visitors to N'Djamena were struck by the discipline among Mr. Habre's forces com-

pared with the anarchic presence on the streets of half-a-dozen private armies in Mr. Goukouni's time.

Mr. Goukouni and Mr. Habre, both northern Muslims, have vied for power since the end of a war which overturned the former dominance of the black African south.

The biggest demonstration seen in N'Djamena for 10 years greeted Mr. Habre on June 7 for his first anniversary celebrations.

The occasion was a major propaganda success for Mr. Habre although persistent dislike for his northern-titled regime is still strong in the south.

"Barring accidents or assassins, I expect to find Mr. Habre sitting in the presidency in 20 years time," said one diplomat.

That prediction may need urgent revision if Libya's Col. Muammar Qadhafi decides to throw his full weight behind Mr. Goukouni's challenge.

Informed sources in N'Djamena believe Mr. Goukouni's 3,500 men can only dislodge Mr. Habre with direct Libyan help.

Mr. Qadhafi withdrew Libyan troops in 1981 after failing to persuade Mr. Goukouni, then president, to accept a merger with Libya.

Diplomats speculated at the time that the Libyan leader was trying to improve his international image with a view to taking over the chairmanship of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

Rain forests: World's most complex habitats

WASHINGTON — A tree falls in South America and as it dies it takes with it untold life forms — some of which may be the only ones of their kind left on earth. The tree itself may be a species as yet undescribed by science.

Tropical rain forests — had they been left undisturbed, they'd ring the equator — are the world's most complex natural habitats. At least a third of all earth's species are thought to live within these ecosystems, only a fraction yet scientifically named.

The number of plant species in South America's Amazonia alone

has been put at more than 40,000. Nature produces this lush diversity of life where hot, humid climates enable photosynthesis and decomposition to stay high all the time.

Vulnerable and diverse

Since no two rain forests are quite the same — not even parts of the same forest — the destruction of even a small area can result in the extinction of uncounted species.

Scientists say the plants, insects,

fungi, and bacteria of rain forests make up the main repository of the earth's gene pool — a memory bank that evolved over billions of years.

In the January issue of National Geographic, senior writer Peter T. White says the forests "may well be nature's chief library of experience from which humanity can learn, not only how to do things but also what vast variety of things may be possible."

Some alkaloids of rain forest plants are hoped to be cures for cancer. Farmers may someday need to fall back on wild strains of

food crops to resist epidemics of disease or insect infestations. Industries may exploit such biochemical marvels as the copal tree, which naturally produces a liquid with qualities like diesel fuel.

Already, drugs derived from plants native to rain forests have been successfully used to treat Hodgkin's disease, hypertension, and rheumatoid arthritis, as an aid in surgery, for the production of sex hormones and the birth-control pill.

Environmentalists decry the destruction of tropical rain forests

— saying it may be the worst biological debacle since life's first emergency on the planet 3.6 billion years ago.

Controversy grows

And as scientists race to comprehend the biological significance of the tropical jungles, political and economic pressures build to clear these vast treasure troves for mining, development, and agriculture. The survival of rain forests has become one of the most controversial issues of our day.

Some say that this humid, evergreen realm, still roughly the size of continental Europe, is reduced each year by half the area of Great Britain.

Others predict that virtually all tropical rain forests may vanish by the end of this century and fear burning the timber to clear the forests will add to the global warming that sometime in the next century may bring considerable changes in climate.

White travelled over a span of two and a half years to rain forests in Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Amazon basin. He found worldwide disagreement about the pace and extent of the shrinking of these forests. "The problem reaches beyond biology into matters economic, sociological, and political," he reported.

Although rain forest soil is poor and quickly depleted by agriculture, slashing and burning the forests for cultivation is the single largest cause of tropical forest loss around the world. Also, many leaders of developing nations view their rain forest mainly as a ready source of cash.

In Peninsular Malaysia where rain forests are being converted to profitable oil palm farms and rubber plantations, less than half of the forests of a generation ago remain. Although conversion is not taking place as swiftly as envisioned 10 years ago, environmentalists fear all Malaysian rain forests will be gone in another generation.

Money in the forest

In Indonesia, which contains the largest rain forest in Asia (nearly one-tenth the world total), much has been harvested already. Log production multiplied sixfold during the 1960s and 1970s. Farmers and transmigrant settlers also are eliminating large areas, but Indonesia's plan to carve big settlements out of the forests is being implemented more slowly than expected.

In Africa, Cameroon has experienced extensive disruption by timber companies and farmers. On the Ivory Coast, more than 70 per cent of the primary forest at the turn of the century is now cleared, and the rest may be gone within a decade.

Much of Africa makes up a similar casualty list: Nigeria, most forest disrupted; Sierra Leone, very few areas undisturbed; Ghana, little or no virgin forest remains; Madagascar, much slash-and-burn farming. Still, Mr. White found that an estimated two-thirds of Africa's remaining tropical lowland rain forests — one-fifth of the world's, mainly along the equator in Zaire — seem most likely to survive without drastic change into the 21st century.

South America's Amazon basin contains the world's largest rain forest — ten times the size of Texas. Ecuador pumps oil from its share of Amazonia; Peru believes its future lies in deforestation of the jungle for agriculture; in Brazil, cattle ranches, iron and gold mines, and extensive highways have been carved out of the jungle. The coastal portions of the forest in Brazil and Ecuador have been heavily logged.

In the Amazon basin, Mr. White reports, "the cutting has been great, but the forest is so much greater that all in all it seems like a drop in the bucket." But he adds that some ecologists claim Amazonia could be completely deforested within 35 years if the rate at which cutting in certain areas has been increasing should continue.

Political issues

John Spears, forestry adviser of the World Bank, says that if a significant part of the world's remaining tropical forest is to be preserved, there will have to be a shift in the emphasis of forestry aid to developing countries — to focus on how to improve the income and quality of life of 200 million small farmers living in the forest.

Others call for sensible development plans. Large chunks of forest should be left entirely alone, they say, provided other substantial chunks can be put into sustained and profitable pro-

duction. Mr. Spears told Mr. White that since 1900 the wet tropical forest area has declined by more than half. Of some one billion hectares (4 million square miles) left in 1980, about 12 per cent will go by the year 2000, leaving about 900 million hectares.

"If nothing is done to check world population growth and to control tropical deforestation," he said, there may only be 500 million by the middle of the next century; by 2100, nothing.

— National Geographic news feature



Ripping through a virgin stand of tropical rain forest in Papua New Guinea, a lumberman's chain saw destroys another part of earth's most complex natural habit. Since no two rain forests are quite the

same — not even parts of the same forest — the destruction of even a small area can result in the extinction of uncounted species. (National Geographic photo)



A poison-arrow frog perches in a mushroom within a protected rain forest in Costa Rica's Corcovado National Park. At least a third of all earth's species are thought to live within the world's humid tropical jungles. Only a fraction of these diverse life forms have a yet been named by science. (National Geographic photo)

Hong Kong welcomes financial futures plan

By Robert Cottrell

HONG KONG — The Hong Kong government has given its seal of approval to hopes of setting up a financial futures market in the British territory. But in doing so it has snubbed the established local commodity futures market, the Hong Kong Commodity Exchange (HKCE), by inviting proposals from other interested parties for establishing a market in the financial contracts.

The HKCE, a privately-run body franchised by government to make a market in commodity futures, has taken a leading role in investigating the potential for financial futures in Hong Kong. It set up last year a 17-member working party which produced in August a report suggesting interest-rate contracts in U.S. and Hong Kong dollars, a U.S./U.K. dollar currency contract, and a yen/H.K. dollar currency contract. The HKCE's existing futures contracts are in soybean, sugar, and most recently gold.

In a statement issued on June 9, the Hong Kong government said it "welcomes the initiatives taken" to promote financial futures locally, and that it "appreciates the benefits which could accrue from a soundly based market in Hong Kong."

But from that point on, the government's views diverge from the hopes of the HKCE. The official statement went on to say that "as far as government can see, the market might best open with a eurodollar or similar contract. At the launch of the market, the government could not envisage Hong Kong currency or Hong Kong interest rate contracts, although the addition of such contracts would not necessarily be ruled out for all time." Some bankers believe that government fears locally-denominated financial futures could increase the already uncomfortable volatility of the Hong Kong dollar.

The government also said that, as far as it was concerned, it was open to offers to establish such a

market. Interested parties, says the government, should prepare a detailed study and prospectus of their intentions. Potential organisers will have to satisfy the government that they can fund and manage the market, and institute adequate safeguards to protect investors.

Specifically, the government will want to see adequate policing of dealers' liquidity margins, and the setting-up of a compensation fund. The government will tell the market what contracts may be traded.

Setting up a financial futures market will require the drafting and enacting of appropriate legislation in Hong Kong. The government says it could provide such legislation within the time it would take organisers to set up the market itself.

The government's decision to by-pass the HKCE may reflect the problems which have dogged the exchange since it was established in 1977. Trading levels have been low. An original cotton contract

was dropped altogether for lack of interest. The exchange also suffered a rash of delinquencies among its 154 members, and 14 companies' registrations have been revoked over the last year. More recently, it suffered a public relations blow when its founder and chairman, Mr. Peter Scales, was stripped of his registration to deal in securities. Mr. Scales is appealing against the decision, which does not relate to his commodity activities, but the exchange asked him to stand down as chairman to protect its image.

As an overall indicator of falling enthusiasm for the exchange, a seat put up for sale in April secured an offer of HK\$310,000 (\$42,060). The peak price paid for a seat last year was HK\$1.6 million.

An important element in setting up any financial futures markets in Hong Kong is likely to be advice and assistance from the London International Financial Futures Exchange (LIFFE), which was informally supported the concept

of Hong Kong's joining the world market-place. The existence of LIFFE-compatible contracts in the Far East would offer international financial institutions the ability to trade further around the clock.

The potential attractions of financial futures trading have not been lost on Singapore, which is pushing ahead with its own potential market for possible opening early next year. Singapore is being assisted by the International Monetary Market, a division of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

Singapore and Hong Kong vie for the title of South East Asia's financial centre. Singapore's progress may have convinced some less enthusiastic parties in Hong Kong who, even if they do not particularly like the idea of local financial futures trading, cannot afford to see the territory outpaced by its regional rival.

— Financial Times news feature

Jakarta's 'hit squads' pick victims with tattoos

By Isa Ismael
Reuters

JAKARTA — Unofficial executioners who have killed an estimated 160 young men in crime-plagued Indonesia appear to have a simple way of picking their victims — they shoot people with tattoos.

The Security Services have denied responsibility for mystery "hit squads" who have mounted a private anti-crime campaign in Jakarta and Central Java.

But most people believe — and some officials have hinted — that the killers are plainclothes police or troops given carte blanche to stem a mounting wave of crime and banditry.

Most of the victims, according to press reports, had tattoos on their bodies. Many were shot publicly, at point-blank range.

Regarded in some quarters as a sign of virility and often worn by criminals, tattoos have become distinctly unpopular with their owners since the killings began early this year. Possible targets

have tried to erase their tattoos, using chemicals or even household irons.

One Jakarta tattooist complained to a local newspaper that business had slowed down since the shootings and some clients had asked him to remove the colourful markings.

Some government officials have hinted the killings were the work of government agents. When asked about the killings, official spokesmen refer only to murders committed by "mystery gunmen."

People's fears that those with tattoos could become targets for gunmen were heightened when one police officer said many ex-convicts carried tattoos.

And Admiral Sudomo, former chief of the Indonesian National Security Agency (Kopkamtib), said ex-convicts or habitual criminals carried out some 80 per cent of Indonesia's crimes.

The police spokesman for the greater Jakarta area, Lieutenant-Colonel Bazar, last month advised suspected criminals to turn themselves in to "avoid being punctured by bullets."

Justice Minister Ali Said was quoted as saying the deaths of scores of suspected villains were better than hundreds of thousands of innocent people being victimised by them.

There has been no official reaction to one newspaper's suggestion that criminals should be tattooed by the authorities to make identification easier.

Attorney-General Ismail Saleh has sought to justify the killings, saying people were relieved by the disappearance of suspected criminals. He attributed the deaths to "guardian angels."

Exactly how many criminals have been killed by the mystery gunmen is not officially known, but newspapers said up to 160 people had been killed this year.

A human rights organisation spokesman said he believed as many as 400 people had been shot dead in an unofficial drive to cut crime in the country.

No official crime rate has been published, although authorities have said drastic measures should be taken to curb mounting crime.

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SPORTS

McEnroe, Fleming win 3rd men's doubles.

Navratilova bags 4th Wimbledon title

LONDON (R) — Martina Navratilova quelled a late rally by Andrea Jaeger and stamped her supremacy on women's tennis by retaining the Wimbledon singles title with a 6-1, 6-3 triumph here Saturday.

The 26-year-old Prague-born American raced through the first

set in 15 minutes by losing just nine points and had the trophy in her possession after 54 minutes for the fourth time in six years. She won it previously in 1974 and 1979.

Navratilova said: "But my first goal is to play to the potential I know is there. I didn't serve all

that well and I'm still improving my backhand because I know it can be better."

Her only real challenger is fellow-American Chris Evert Lloyd, who came to Wimbledon bidding to hold all four grand slam titles after taking the U.S., Australian and French Opens.

Navratilova's only losses in the last year were in those events and she and Lloyd were joint favourites here, but Lloyd was upset in the third round by compatriot Kathy Jordan.

"I wanted to be the one to stop here, but someone else did," Navratilova said. Perhaps she will get her chance in this year's U.S. Open, which Navratilova has never won and which Lloyd took last year for the sixth time.

Navratilova lost just 25 games here in seven matches, nine in a 7-6, 6-3 second win over American Sherry Acker. But she lost no more than four in any other and three or less in five out of seven. She has won 49 out of 50 mat-

ches this year and 139 out of 143 over the last 18 months. Her only defeat in 1983 was to American Kathy Horvath in the fourth round of the French Open.

She is the first woman to win Wimbledon without the loss of a set since Billie Jean King took the second of her six titles in 1967.

"It started out a huge mountain, but it was not so tough. It was easy match-wise and my practice sessions were tougher, but that is what you work for in practice," she said.

Second-seeded John McEnroe meets unseeded New Zealander Chris Lewis Sunday for the men's title. McEnroe warmed up well Saturday by combining with fellow-American Peter Fleming to win the men's doubles for the third time. They beat American twins Tim and Tom Gullikson 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.

Navratilova wasted no time Saturday against her 18-year-old American opponent, who found the big occasion too much for her. Jaeger, the third seed, was missing her target from the opening point and ever in the opening set could she find the ground stroke accuracy - which carried her past Billie Jean King 6-1, 6-1 in the semifinals.

That was testimony to Navratilova's more aggressive play and greater speed, which left Jaeger with far less empty space in Navratilova's court to shoot for. "I just didn't start well and lost

my first service game from 30-love and that sort of blew it for me in the first set. She really trounced me in that set," Jaeger said.

But she realised that she would have to go for broke in the second set and she soon began to reveal the ground strokes which have made her one of the game's most feared baseliners.

She finally got on the scoreboard by breaking Navratilova's serve in the opening game and she had a point for 2-0. She lost it but after Navratilova had gone ahead she drew level at 2-2.

A questionable line call in the sixth game might have cost Jaeger the chance of levelling again, and Navratilova reached 5-2 with her own serve to come.

Jaeger saved match point by inducing a backhand error and, passing her rival with great frequency now, she saved two more in grand style in the following game.

But Navratilova showed her champion's mettle by refusing to panic. Fine serving averted a break point and took her to match point for the fourth time, and this time Jaeger obliged with a forehand return that sailed over the baseline.

McEnroe Junior makes his exit

LONDON (R) — While John McEnroe was teaming up with partner Peter Fleming to win the Wimbledon doubles crown on the centre court Saturday afternoon his 17-year-old brother Patrick was making his exit from the boys

singles out on court two.

McEnroe, Junior, who had come through the semifinals unseeded, lost to top-seeded Swede Stefan Edberg.

McEnroe was far from disgraced for Edberg, also 17, is widely regarded as the pick of the crop of Swedish youngsters who are racing up the world rankings.

Afterwards McEnroe conducted his first Wimbledon press conference with the charm and ease of a seasoned veteran. He said he was not surprised he had

received so much attention at Wimbledon and added with a grin: "Because of who I am I get a lot of attention wherever I go."

"Junior is a nickname he has taken over from his elder brother, refuses to get rattled on court and treats even the most dubious of calls nonchalantly."

"Having seen the grief John suffers, I always try to stay calm," he explained. "It's ridiculous the pressure he has to live under. Every little thing he does is blown out of all proportion and I don't want

that happening to me."

A skilful midfielder in his New York school's soccer team, McEnroe has not yet decided if he wants to make a career out of tennis.

"I'm nowhere near that stage as it's still too early to say how good I can be."

"Obviously I'd like to be number one but I'm not simply following in John's footsteps. Whatever he achieves in tennis is not going to affect the goals I set for myself."



Martina Navratilova holds high the Wimbledon shield which she won Saturday, her fourth Wimbledon singles title (A.P. wirephoto)

Spencer takes pole spot for Belgian Grand Prix

FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium (R) — World championship leader Freddie Spencer of the United States Saturday continued to set the pace in practice Sunday's Belgian 500 cc motorcycle Grand Prix.

Spencer, riding a Honda, set the fastest time on the second day of practice when he shaved nearly two seconds off his best lap Friday to cover the modified Francorchamps circuit in two minutes 32.70 seconds at an average speed of 163.66 kph.

His closest championship rival and compatriot Kenny Roberts made a desperate attempt to snatch pole position, but his factory Yamaha came in factions of a second behind at two minutes 32.79 seconds.

Triple world champion Roberts closed the gap on Spencer to eight points after his victory in last week's Dutch Grand Prix which took his total to 85.

Frenchman Raymond Roche fell spectacularly in Saturday's practice but though taken to hospital for checks he appeared to have miraculously escaped any serious injury after being catapulted from his Honda.

American Randy Mamola on a Suzuki, third in the championship standings on 59 points, took the same position in Saturday's practice by clocking two minutes 33.36 seconds.

In 250 cc practice, Belgium's Didier de Radigues delighted a partisan crowd by scorching round the track on his Chevalier in two minutes 40.72 seconds, at an average speed of 155.49 kilometres an hour.

Championship leader Carlos Lavado of Venezuela, with an almost unassailable lead of 24 points, will have to be content with second place at Sunday's start after taking his Yamaha round in 2:40.76.

In the 125 cc class, Italy's Pier Paolo Bianchi piloted his Sanvenero round the circuit in 2:45.67 at an average 150.84 kph to secure pole position ahead of fellow Italian Eugenio Lazzarini.

Championship leader Angel Nieto of Spain could manage only 2:52.72, sixth in the day's practice rankings.

In sidcar practice the Swiss pair Rolf Biland and Kurt Waltisburg lived up to their number one ranking with a 1:59.07 kph fastest time of 2:34.10.

English county cricket champions crash for 78

LONDON (R) — English county cricket champions Middlesex were skittled for 78 as a total of 22 wickets crashed on the first day of their three-day match against Warwickshire in Birmingham Saturday.

The normally blameless Edgbaston pitch produced turn and unpredictable bounce, and groundsman Bert Flack, who is also the test and county cricket board inspector of pitches, said he expected to be "on the carpet for this one."

Leaders Middlesex routed third-placed Warwickshire for 113 as left arm spinner Phil Edmonds (five for 26) and off-spinner John Emburey (three for 15) continued in irresistible form and lifted their season's total haul to 105 wickets.

Warwickshire hit back as England captain and fast bowler Bob Willis took three for eight and South African all-rounder Anton Ferreira snapped up a championship-best five for 19 to leave Middlesex trailing by 35.

But the champions grabbed two second innings wickets, with Edmonds getting one of them, as Warwickshire extended their lead by 17 at the close.

Pregnant Lopez withdraws from Montreal golf tournament

MONTREAL (R) — U.S. golfer Nancy Lopez, who is nearly five months pregnant, withdrew from a tournament here Friday after complaining of stomach pains at the 13th tee.

She was admitted to hospital for observation but was later released. Doctors said it was not clear if the stomach pains were directly related to the pregnancy but added that Lopez and her unborn child were fine.

Lopez told a press conference here last Tuesday she hoped to play in the U.S. Open at the end of this month but would not enter another tournament before the baby was born. She hopes to return to the circuit next January, two months after the birth.

Lopez has been riding on golf-buggies in tournaments for the past two weeks to save energy. She has won two tournaments this year, one in February and the other in April.

Americans Sandra Spuzich, Donna White and Hollis Stacy and New Zealander M.J. Smith shared the lead in the Ladies' Professional Golf Association tournament at the halfway stage with two-round totals of 136.

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INVITATION FOR
PREQUALIFICATION OF
BUILDING CONTRACTORS FOR
THE FIFTH EDUCATIONAL
PROJECT SCHOOL BUILDINGS

The Ministry of Education intends to announce tendering of school building project of the fifth educational project on the fourth quarter of 1983.

These schools are 18 in number, the area of each school varies from (4000) s.m. to (12400) s.m. and the total area is (120000) s.m.

The government tenders directorate invites contractors willing to participate, whether local contractors or contractors from the member countries of the World Bank in addition to Switzerland and Taiwan obtain prequalification forms from the tenders directorate, observing the following qualification conditions:-

Types of firms

a- Local contractors who are classified in the (general) or (first) degree in buildings, or who can complete and submit their prequalification forms before Aug. 10th, 1983 (according to the new regulations).

b- Local firms formed by a foreign contractor in joint venture with a local partner. Every partner will be qualified separately, and the participation of the local partner in technical, administrative, capital and other factors shall be considered.

c- Foreign firms: It is intended to prequalify about (10)

Prequalification considerations:-

1. Competent local contractors shall be given preference when studying financial offers on other types of firms, because of expected revenues on the national economy, and differences in income taxes and fees and employment of local engineers, technicians and labour.
2. At time of awards of tenders for prequalified firms, the following guiding figures of max. total areas are to be considered:-
 - Local Contractor, classified as general - 40000 s.m.
 - Local contractor, classified as first degree - 20000 s.m.
 - Foreign contractor, - 40000 s.m. (max).

Timing

1. Prequalification forms may be obtained starting on July 6th, 83 and till Aug. 3rd, 1983.
2. Last date for submittal of prequalification forms is Aug. 24th 1983 at 2.00 p.m.
3. Submission shall be at the government tenders directorate.

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JORDAN TIMES

New trade tensions worry Japan

By Keith Stafford
Reuter

TOKYO — Signs that a recovery in Japan's economy is likely to be based on increased exports rather than higher domestic spending have prompted fears of renewed trade tensions with America and Europe.

Unofficial estimates by economists point to a trade balance of \$30 billion in Japan's favour in the present financial year ending next March, rather than a previously estimated \$20 billion, government sources said.

This would help the current account balance, which includes invisible items such as insurance and tourism and is expected to reach nearly \$18.5 billion instead of the originally estimated \$9 billion.

Last month Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Japan would try to rely more on domestic spending rather than higher exports to activate sluggish economic activity.

But economists said the government had little room to manoeuvre with its fiscal or monetary policies in the face of a record budget deficit, thus precluding higher state spending.

They said the weakness of the yen one of the world's foreign exchange markets prevented cuts in major interest rates such as the official discount rate. But cuts would anyway only weaken the Japanese currency and make exports even cheaper.

Increased imports appear to be the only short-term way to help redress growing Japanese trade surpluses. Government sources said this was emerging as a likely plank of policy following ministerial statements in the past week.

Mr. Nakasone himself, campaigning on behalf of candidates for upper house parliamentary elections, said import team would be sent abroad and that he planned to take political steps to encourage imports.

At times of trade friction in the past Japan has resorted to emergency imports of oil, aircraft, uranium and rare metal to help redress trade imbalances.

Mr. Nakasone's comments were echoed by Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, and by the annual report of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

Economists said the weak recovery of the world economy would tend to suck Japanese capital and consumer goods into markets of the industrial nations and that it would be some time before there was a marked decline in un-

employment in these states. Protectionist sentiment against Japanese goods in labour organisations and some industrial groupings would tend to remain high, they said.

Another possible round of acrimony could start next month at meetings in Washington and Brussels.

From July 11 to 13 senior Japanese and U.S. trade officials will meet to discuss trade, including American demands that Japan open its markets to more agricultural imports.

Japan faces accusations that it unfairly nurtures industries like cars, electronics and computers before unleashing their exports on world markets, a claim Japan has vehemently rejected.

A meeting with a European Community delegation in Brussels from July 4 to 7 will probably centre on the Common Market's decision to bring Japan before the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in Geneva, the body which polices the world's trading rules.

The Europeans have called on GATT to review Japan's markets to see if they are partially closed to foreign goods, a complaint raised regularly for decades.

News of the community decision dismayed Japan because it followed agreement to restrict exports of Japanese consumer products into the Common Market, notably video tape recorders.

Industry sources in Japan, still stung by the U.S. decision to impose high tariffs on Japanese motorcycles, have speculated on the possibility of America bringing similar complaints as the Europeans to GATT.

Mr. Nakasone told a press conference that he planned some form of political machinery to encourage imports and bankers said a pointer to the change appeared when the Japan Development Bank announced a reduction in interest on loans to foreign companies from next March.

MITI called on the bank to increase credit allocations to foreign companies recently, to try to defuse the trade question and encourage inward investment, they said.

Other ministry suggestions for increasing imports include lowering purchase tax on some foreign goods, such as luxury cars, and loans to small Japanese companies for imports.

Funds might become available to foreign companies for initial marketing, tax breaks on imported machinery, training for businessmen and a "buy-foreign" policy in government, MITI sources said.

Canada freezes oil prices

OTTAWA (R) — The Canadian government has agreed to shield consumers from oil and gas price increases for 18 months barring major fluctuations in the world price.

Ottawa and Alberta, the major oil and gas producing province, have signed a revised agreement holding the price of conventional oil — oil pumped from the ground by conventional means — at the current wellhead price of \$29.75 a barrel, equal to about 83 per cent of the world price.

A four-dollar-a-barrel increase, due to take effect Saturday, has been scrapped and the price will not rise as scheduled in 1984 unless the world price goes up. Conventional oil accounts for about two-thirds of domestic production.

Natural gas prices, scheduled to increase every six months, will be held to 65 per cent of the oil price until 1985 as an incentive for consumers to convert from oil and use the abundant gas reserves.

The ruling Liberal government had pledged to keep the price of conventional oil no higher than 75 per cent of world prices, the ceiling imposed in the pricing pact of September 1981.

But the 1981 agreement, based on steadily increasing prices, became obsolete after world oil prices dropped.

Federal Energy Minister Jean Chretien and his Alberta counterpart John Zois said the agreement reflected international realities and would be beneficial to consumers and oil companies.

Mr. Zois said it was expected to provide the oil industry with additional incentive to continue

an aggressive drilling and exploration programme in Alberta. Initial oil industry reaction to the new agreement was mixed. Although most spokesmen were pleased Ottawa and Alberta had worked out a compromise solution, the industry had lobbied for complete deregulation of oil prices.

Both levels of government had banked on a share of the billions of dollars in revenues at stake when the 1981 deal was reached, but the drop in world prices cut short those plans.

He will also recommend the establishment of a European policy for productive investments and a concerted effort to create new jobs and beat unemployment," the source said.

Community diplomats said Greece would have to mediate between those countries which favoured retrenchment at a time of world economic troubles and those which saw expansion and wider community involvement in the economies of the 11 members as the best hope for recovery.

Foreign Minister Ioannis Haralambopoulos, in his capacity as chairman of the community's council of foreign ministers, will address the European Parliament next Tuesday to outline Greece's plans during its presidency.

An authoritative source in Athens said the foreign minister would take up the issue of the disparity in wealth between the community's northern and southern members and insist on improvements in agriculture, tourism

and fisheries in the south.

that withdrawal is no longer on the cards.

Greece's Socialist government, which is charged with trying to resolve the Common Market's inherited fiscal and economic difficulties, came to power 20 months ago on an anti-community and anti-NATO platform.

Greek attitudes remain ambivalent, but officials say privately

Greece seeks to solve EEC problems

ATHENS (R) — President Constantine Karamanlis of Greece, who steered his country into the European Community, said Saturday Athens would seek solutions to all the Common Market problems now it headed the group for the first time.

"I am certain that not only will it not create problems in the community, but on the contrary it will endeavour to find solutions to all outstanding problems of the community," he told Reuters.

Greece, which Mr. Karamanlis led into the community two years

ago as prime minister, replaced West Germany Friday for its first presidency of the 10-nation bloc. The presidency rotates between member-states on a six-monthly basis.

Greece's Socialist government, which is charged with trying to resolve the Common Market's inherited fiscal and economic difficulties, came to power 20 months ago on an anti-community and anti-NATO platform.

Greek attitudes remain ambivalent, but officials say privately

U.K. unemployment drops

LONDON (R) — Unemployment in Britain dropped in June to 12.5 per cent of the workforce, the fifth monthly fall in succession, the Department of Employment said Saturday.

But the underlying trend, which excludes school leavers, showed adult unemployment rose for the 43rd month in succession.

The unadjusted jobless total fell 65,400 in June to 2,983,900 to reach the 12.5 per cent figure. In May 12.8 per cent of the workforce was jobless.

The seasonally-adjusted adult unemployment total rose 500 to 2,970,400 — 12.4 per cent of the workforce.

The number of school leavers out of work was almost 250,000, a June record, but more than half will not count in the jobless total until September when they are eligible for unemployment benefit.

Opposition parties once again accused the government of fiddling the figures to hide the true unemployment level.

Over the past year the Conservative government has made a number of changes in the way the jobs are counted — the most recent excludes all men aged 60 and over.

Moroccan oil refinery seeks credit renewal

BAHRAIN (R) — Gulf International Bank (GIB) and Banque Marocaine du Commerce Extérieur said Saturday they had been chosen by Morocco's government-owned oil refinery to arrange \$200 million of short-term finance for oil purchases.

GIB said it would fully underwrite a 12-month revolving letter of credit to Societe Anonyme Marocaine de L'Industrie du Raffinage (SAMIR), the country's largest refinery, to purchase Saudi Arabian and spot market oil to meet domestic needs.

The financing is a renewal of a facility for the same amount led by GIB last year, a spokesman for GIB said. Other banks led the credit the previous three years, he added.

Each letter of credit will be for a maximum of 90 days and any related refinancing will be for a period of 180 days at the option of the borrower, GIB said. The refinery can opt to refinance in West German marks or Swiss francs.

Malaysia opens Islamic bank

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohammad opened officially Friday Southeast Asia's first Islamic bank to give Malaysians an alternative to conventional Western commercial banking.

He said the bank, Malaysia's third largest domestic bank with a paid-up capital of 100 million ringgit (\$43 million), would be the first step in convincing people assimilation of Islamic principles into the economic system would not lead to its failure.

The Malaysian government is keen to encourage values in line with Islam.

Mr. Mahathir said the opening of the bank which will be governed by a council of Muslim scholars would not mean commercial banks in the country would be done away with.

F.T. says strike will end soon

LONDON (R) — The Financial Times, "Bible" of Britain's business community, Thursday submitted its five-week dispute with striking print workers to mediation, and said it expected to resume publication next Tuesday.

The newspaper's management said it would take the mediator's findings as final, but the strikers' union did not bind itself in advance to accept the outcome.

No immediate comment was available from the National Graphical Association (NGA), which represents 24 machine minders seeking a pay rise of £17.32 (\$26) to maintain differentials above a recent increase for their assistants. This would bring their weekly pay to £304.67 (\$463).

Management says the strike has cost the newspaper about £4 million (\$6 million).

First-ever Indian-built nuclear plant operational

NEW DELHI (R) — India's first locally designed and built nuclear power plant went into operation Saturday at Kalpakkam, 120 kilometres south of Madras, an Indian Atomic Energy Agency spokesman said.

He said only one unit had been commissioned so far and that further tests were planned on it during the next three to four weeks, after which it would be connected to the country's southern electricity supply grid.

The spokesman said in a statement issued in Bombay that India had now joined a select group of countries capable of designing, building and putting into action nuclear power stations of their own.

India's ambitious nuclear programme, which aims to provide 10,000 megawatts of electricity by the year 2000, has been hit by a series of faults and setbacks since the first research reactor was built with British help in 1956.

The Kalpakkam power station, consisting of two heavy-water reactor units of 235 megawatts each, has taken 15 years to complete because of design and construction problems.

India, which exploded a nuclear device in 1974, is considered to be the Third World's leading nuclear nation. It says its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes only, but it has declined to sign the international Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

It has two other functioning nuclear power stations.

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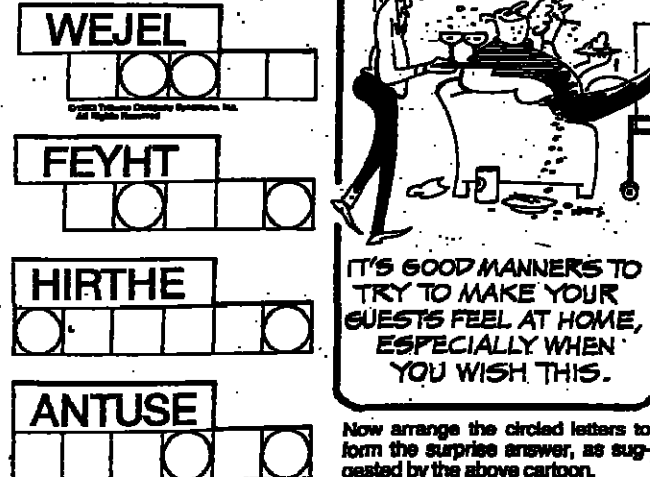
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"The EPA says your breath is in violation of regulation No. 5871"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

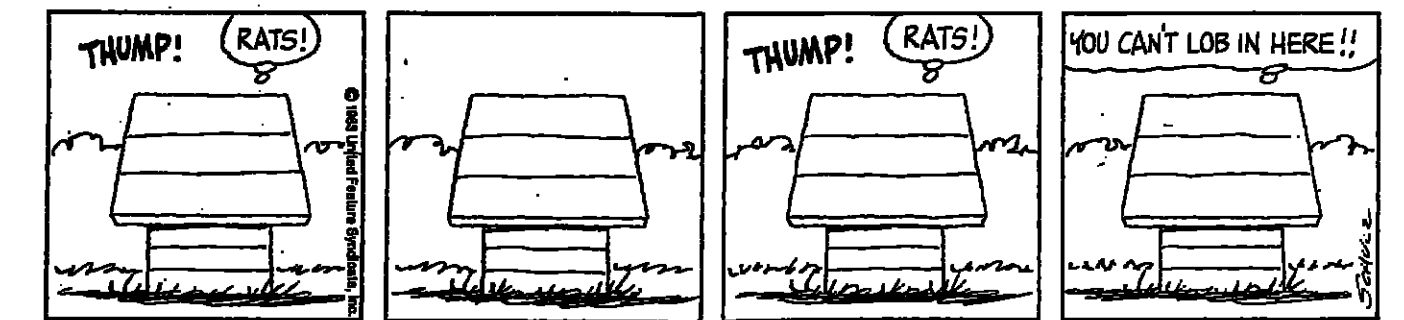


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

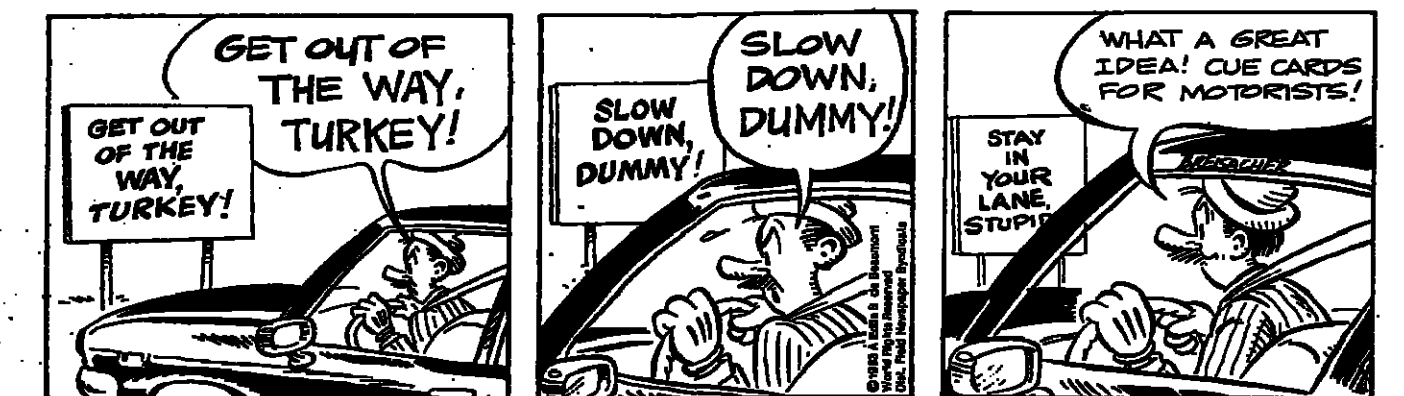
Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: EVENT AWAKE SOIRE FEWEST
Answer: When he went on that famous 14-day diet, this was all he lost—TWO WEEKS

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JULY 3, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: All sorts of new and changing conditions are in effect today and tonight and bring wonderful opportunities. Your self-expression and creativity are at a peak today.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Newcomers may enter your life now. It would be wise to encourage them since they can be of assistance to you in many ways.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Make a new confidante today. Plan for the future in order to attain your finest goals. Use care when spending money.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can give more attention to gaining your personal aims in a very dynamic way now. Exercise caution while driving.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Plan how to handle credit affairs from a new standpoint and make them work nicely for you. Avoid jealous people.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Enlarge the scope of your idealistic plans so that you can gain more from them. Avoid the temptation to overspend.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Your intuition is good for planning a more successful future. Get rid of any bills you have. Study the newspaper for pertinent data.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Meeting with good friends can introduce you to other people you want to meet. Be active and dynamic today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Listen to ideas of co-workers. You might find them worthwhile. Schedule all your activities for the coming week.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If your friends have new types of pleasure they want to get into, be willing to test them out during spare time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make changes at home you feel are necessary to make it more functional and charming. Entertain at home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Pass on ideas you have to your friends and gain their appreciation. Spend time in quiet thought and meditation today.

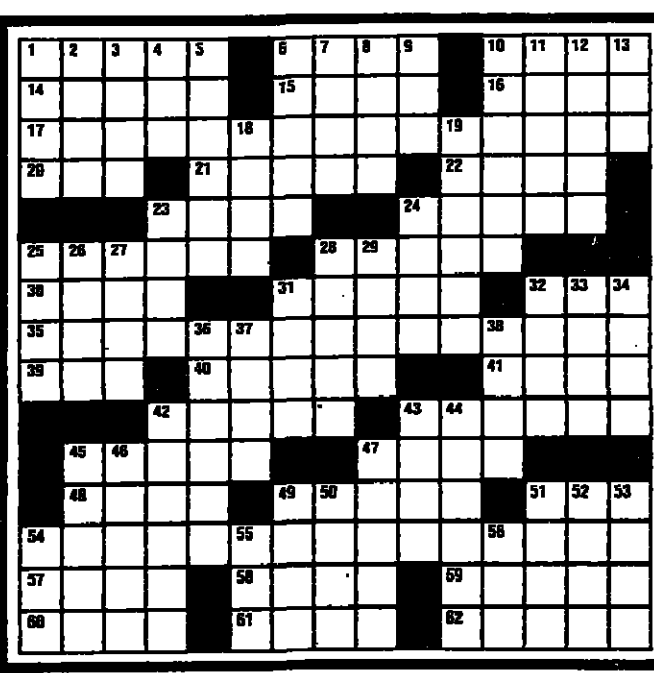
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get together with advisors today and make new plans for the future. Plan how best to make repairs on your home.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be alert to the new trends of the New Era and be desirous of becoming an integral part of them. Education should be obtained in the most modern schools. A pioneer is in this chart and should be guided properly.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by Emory H. Cain

ACROSS	28 Compelled to go	49 Confess	24 Musical character
1 Packages	31 Judicial garment	51 Corgi	25 Sleep disturber
6 Arab garments	32 Silent actors	54 What Custer didn't do?	26 Bulwer-Lytton lady
10 Certain yarn	33 Sound for a weaver?	57 Whet	27 Blind as —
14 Call — to (end)	35 How to take off?	58 Buddy or Max	28 Stashes
15 Electrical unit	36 Sulk	59 Type type	29 Otis of baseball
16 A Guthrie	39 Bets	60 Adam's grandson	31 Mongrel dog
17 Think tank?	40 Buffalo's waterfront	61 Formerly, formerly	32 Harbor
20 "— a jolly good"	42 States of agitation	62 Inscribed pillar	33 Steinbeck character
21 Bridge seats	43 A Maddox	DOWN	34 Gaza
22 Destroy	45 Actor Robert	1 Strike	36 Woolly
23 Hodgepodge	46 Obi	2 Words of self-pity	37 Step —!
24 Set of beliefs	48 Small — (be leary)	3 Burne's neighbor	38 Engage gears
25 Nursery must		4 Wapiti	42 Urusae and mamba
		5 Addison's partner	43 Secular
		6 Dispatch boat	44 Chemical compounds
		7 Cloth roll	45 Author Runyon
		8 "— well that ends..."	46 Maine town
		9 Holy one: abby	47 Chic
		10 Admonished	48 On — with (equal to)
		11 Wear away	50 Poor grades
		12 Spate	51 Stop on a —
		13 One of a trio	52 Gem
		14 Weather word	53 Hereditary factor
		15 Compulsion	54 Haggard work
		23 Oil cartel	55 Beams of New York
			56 Oils



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